to meet the demand of coal by power stations located in Western and Southern India;

(b) the problems faced by CIL in this regard; and

(c) how the gap in coal despatch has been met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) During the strike at Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), efforts were made to ensure that coal supplies to the power stations linked to that company were not affected. Coal to an extent of nearly 11.00 lakh tonnes was supplied from the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) to various power houses linked to SCCL. These supplies were made from Western Coalfields Ltd. Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. and South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. As a result of these efforts, all the power houses served by SCCL continued almost normal generation of power during the strike period. The extra supplies from the subsidiaries of CIL was made from stocks as well as by diverting coal meant for consumers linked to CIL.

Schemes for Self-Employment

1348. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored scheme for self-employment have been launched in the country particularly in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA): (a) and (b) The centrally sponsored schemes for self-employment currently in operation in the States and Union Territories including Punjab are (i) the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) which aims at providing self-employment opportunities to the rural poor through assistance in the form of subsidy and bank credit to enable them to acquire productive assets and appropriate skills to cross the poverty line on a sustained basis and (ii) as part of the Nehru Rozgar Yojana, the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME), of which aims at skill upgradation and provision of subsidy and loan to urban poor beneficiaries with the objective of setting up micro enterprises in industries, services and business.

(c) Does not arise.

Assistance of Research Organisations in Exports

1349. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to seek the assistance of research organisations to identify openings in exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Sir, the Government have been getting studies done by researchers from time to time. Recently, the Goverment have assigned studies on increased export possibilities in the post-Uruguay Round era, in three sectors viz. agriculture and allied products, industrial goods and services, by research organisations so as to locate areas, identify products, countries, and supportive policy measures required to exploit India's export potential.

Duping of Money by Agencies Sending Manpower Abroad

1350. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Goverment that some agencies

engaged in export of manpower abroad are duping a large number of people of their savings;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of Government during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken to nab all such agencies and to safeguard the interests of the people?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) During the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95, 242 complaints were received against the Recruiting Agents registered with the Ministry of Labour.

(c) Complaints against Registered Recruiting agents are enquired into with the help of police authorites and the concerned Indian Missions abroad and action is taken, as appropriate in each case in accordence with the provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 and Rules framed thereunder. Complaints against un-registered recruiting agents are referred to the concerned police authorities for investigation. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Indian Missions abroad. In addition, departmental action is taken against erring agents in terms of suspension and cancellation of licenses.

न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 को लागू करने वाले राज्य

1351. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) किन-किन राज्यों में न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 के उपबंधों को समुचित ढंग से लागू किया गया है ;

(ख) किन-किन राज्यों में उपर्युक्त अधिनियम के उपबंधों को समुचित ढंग से लागू नहीं किया गया है, और

(ग) खेतिहर मजदूरों की मजदूरी से संबंधित वर्षों से लम्बित विवादों की संख्या क्या है और इन लम्बित मामलों को शीघ्र निपटाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

श्रम मंत्री (श्री जी॰ वेंकट स्वामी): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Prices of Edible Oils

1352. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 16 and Unstarred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27.11.95 and state what has been the selling and procurement prices of edible oils obtainable in the open market/Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar, branch-wise during the year 1995 (so far)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM) (SHRI VENOD SHARMA): The Purchase price and selling price of various edible oils in the branches of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar and also the open market price can be seen in the enclosed statement. [*See* Appendix 175, Annexure No. 36].

Changes in Guidelines for Investment by Indian Corporates

1353. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently notified any major changes in the guidelines for investment by Indian Corporates in joint ventures abroad making it easier for them to acquire companies overseas; and

(b) if so, the details of the changes made and the salient features of the benefits accruing to Indian Companies therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Copy of the Revised guidelines for Indian Direct